THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) The number of tribals who are Secretaries, Additional Secretaries, and Joint Secretaries in Government of India, at present is given below:

Secretary	3
Additional Secretary	3
Joint Secretary	7

(b) and (c) There is no such classification of the Ministries as economic Ministries and non-economic Ministries.

(d) and (e) No, Sir.

Provision for noting on file in RTI Act

†1713. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item "Government gives in to babus, cripples RTI's published in Hindustan Times dated 22 July, 2006;

(b) whether Government have taken a decision to keep the notings on files out of RTI Act's scope;

(c) whether it is a fact that the pressure from bureaucracy was behind this decision;

(d) whether it is also a fact that because of this provision, the spirit of this act would be lost and this act would become weak as some legal experts have expressed their apprehension about the same; and

(e) if so, Government's intention behind doing so?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) The news item "Government gives in to babus, cripples RTI" was published in Hindustan Times, dated 21st July, 2006.

(b) Government has taken a decision to specifically provide in the RTI Act that substantive file notings on plans, schemes and programmes that relate to development and social issues, shall be liable for disclosure.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The amendments shall not make the Act weak.

(e) Does not arise.

Amendment in RTI Act, 2005

1714. DR. NARAYAN SINGH MANAKLAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government are contemplating to amend the Right to Information Act, 2005;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there has been instances of bureaucratic indifference to share the content of file noting with the public;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) to what extent exemption of file noting would make the RTI Act ineffective to serve its purpose; and

(f) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) Based on the experience of working of the Right to Information Act, 2005, the Government proposes to make certain amendments and clarification to the Act.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Government proposes to specifically provide in the Right to Information Act, 2005, that substantive file notings on plans, schemes and programmes that relate to development and social issues shall be liable for disclosure. It would not make the RTI Act ineffective.

Assessment of All India Service Officers

1715. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether numerous changes in rules have been made in assessing of All India Service Officers;